M/H.

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.
13 FEB 1959

GOWER
Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR
1957

G. E. DONOVAN
M.D., M.Sc., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

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Gower Rural District Council 1957

Chairman .... Councillor J. W. THOMAS

Vicre-Chairman .... Councillor T. LLOYD

Councillors :

W. AUSTIN, J.P.
C. BROWN
B. EDWARDS
G. E. GIBBS, J.P.
I. A. GRONOW
G. A. GROVE, J.P.
R. GUY, J.P.
D. I. JENKINS
S. E. JOHN
P. P. JONES, B.A.
F. LORD
L. OAKLEY
T. O'LEARY
R. E. PARRY
J. B. ROGERS
B. J. RICHARDS
W. G. TUCKER, J.P.
W. D. WEEKES
P. T. WILLIAMS
W. R. WILLIAMS
A. J. YEANDLE
Colonel F. S. MORGAN, C.B.E., D.L., J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Chairman .... Councillor F. LORD

Vice-Chairman .... Councillor C. A. BROWN

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health :
G. E. DONOVAN, M.D., M.Sc., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :
D. C. LLEWELLYN, F.S.I.A.,
C.R.S.I. (Meat & Other Foods).

Additional Public Health Inspector :
T. G. V. RADFORD,
C.R.S.I. (Meat & Other Foods).

Clerk :
Miss W. MARROW

Gower Rural District Council

To the Chairman & Members of the
GOWER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
7/8, Uplands Crescent,
Swansea.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1957.

I thank my staff for their loyalty and support.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

G. E. DONOVAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

1.—General Statistics.

Area of District—38,652 acres.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of the year—3959.

Rateable Value of District—£81,591.

Sum represented at 1d. rate—£307/12/2.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-1957—11,920.

2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

Live Births :

	Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	190	103	87	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—16·53.
Illegitimate	7	6	1	

Still Births :—

Legitimate	1	—	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)—5·05.
Deaths	159	88	71	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—13.34.

	Deaths
Death from Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
Deaths from other Puerperal Causes	Nil

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age :

All Infants per 1,000 live births	40·61
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	31·57

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	26 Deaths
Deaths from Heart Diseases	53
Deaths from Bronchitis	11
Deaths from Diarrhoea	2
Deaths from Tuberculosis	1

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND CHIEF INDUSTRIES

The Gower Area is chiefly agricultural with the exception of the North Eastern end of the Peninsula, which is industrial in character. Due to the charms of the area there is a very large influx of visitors, especially during the summer months.

There is a tendency to look upon Gower as a small agricultural area with a population of 11,920. In my opinion this is a wrong way to look at the situation. It will be noted that the population of Gower has increased from 11,890 from the last year to 11,920. I would reckon that at certain times of the year, due to the visitors, the population would be quadrupled, and the health facilities should be such as to adequately deal with this population. It must also be remembered that the Gower population is constantly increasing.

The population find employment on the land, catering for visitors, and a large percentage of the male population find employment in the Llwchwr area where they are engaged in the Steel, Tin and Coal trades.

At the Penclawdd, the cockle industry absorbs approximately 200 people. The estuary is polluted, and this industry should be safeguarded by adequate public health control. At the present time there are six cockle sterilization plants operating in the Penclawdd area.

AREA AND POPULATION

The District is divided into 17 parishes, the acreage of each parish being as follows :

Bishopston	2598	acres.
Llanmadoc	1463	,,
Cheriton	1427	,,
Ilston	3109	,,
Reynoldston	1069	,,
Knelston	548	,,
Llangennith	3373	,,
Llanrhidian Higher	5212	
Llanrhidian Lower	6125	,,
Nicholaston	517	
Penmaen	1005	,,
Oxwich	1342	,,
Pennard	2862	,,
Penrice	2127	,,
Porteynon	1151	,,
Llanddewi	2009	,,
Rhossili	2715	,,
	38652	,,

The estimated resident population of the district for 1957 is given by the Registrar General, as 11,920.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 3,959, and the rateable value of the district was £81,591, which represents a sum of £307/12/2 as yield of a penny rate.

BIRTHS

The number of live births registered for the district during 1957 was 197, being 109 males and 88 females, representing a birth rate of 16.53 per thousand of the estimated population.

In 1956 the net total live births amounted to 185, which shows an increase this year of 12 births.

One female and 6 male illegitimate children were registered, and the still births numbered 1.

BIRTH RATE

The birth rate for Gower has increased this year, being 16.53 per thousand of the population whilst the figure for 1956 was 15.56, and that of England & Wales being 16.10.

DEATH RATE

The net total deaths after allowing for inward and outward transfers were 159, being 88 males and 71 females, this represents a death rate of 13.34 per thousand of the estimated population.

There were 8 deaths of children under 1 year, which gives an infant mortality rate of 40.61 per thousand total live births.

Cancer and all other forms of malignant diseases caused 26 deaths.

Fifty three deaths were due to heart diseases, and 11 due to bronchitis.

There were 5 deaths from accidents, and one from suicide.

The causes of deaths during the year were as follows: —

Respiratory Tuberculosis	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4
Malignant neoplasm, bronchus	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11
Diabetes	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	27
Coronary disease, angina	22
Hypertension with heart disease	4
Other heart diseases	24
Other circulatory diseases	12
Influenza	2
Pneumonia	2
Bronchitis	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	3
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	2
Nephritis, & nephrosis	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2
Congenital Malformation	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10
Motor accidents	1
All other accidents	4
Suicide	1
Total	159

Death Rate from Other Causes

Heart Diseases	4·4
Cancer & All other forms of malignant diseases	2·1
Bronchitis and other diseases of the respiratory system	1·1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria

No cases notified to my department since 1950.

It may be stated that the incidence of Diphtheria in this area is low due to the extensive Immunisation Campaign.

The incidence of Diphtheria in Gower for the past thirteen years is as follows:

Year	Number of Cases	Deaths
1945	1	1
1946	2	—
1947	—	—
1948	—	—
1949	1	—
1950	1	—
1951	—	—
1952	—	—
1953	—	—
1954	—	—
1955	—	—
1956	—	—
1957	—	—

Diphtheria Immunisation

Since the new Health Scheme this is under the control of the Glamorgan County Council.

General Practitioners in the Administrative County who participate in the County Council's Scheme for Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination against Smallpox may obtain serum and vaccine free of cost from the Medical Research Councils' Laboratories at Cardiff and Carmarthen.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that Diphtheria Immunisation gives nearly 100% protection and that in my opinion a parent or guardian who knowingly deprives a child of this protection is guilty to say the least of gross negligence—and that is using a mild term. There is no reason why anyone in this area can state that they are unaware of the facilities available to them for immunisation.

We cannot be too complacent about diphtheria immunisation. It must be remembered that previously 50% of the death rate in diptheria occurred in children under the age of four years. It requires only a few years of non-immunisation to be back in the old days. This illustrates that there is no final victory in preventive medicine—it is a continuous battle.

Scarlet Fever

2 cases were notified to my department during the year, one of which was removed to hospital.

The removal of cases of Scarlet Fever to Isolation Hospital in this district depends upon home conditions. If the home conditions are such that in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health it is safe to nurse the patient at home, this is done. If, however, the home conditions are unsuitable the patient is admitted to Garngoch Isolation Hospital.

Pneumonia

Two cases were notified during the year, and both were removed to hospital.

Puerperal Pyrexia

No cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. The figures from 1950 are as follows:—

	Cases.
1950	1
1951	2
1952	20
1953	5
1954	4
1955	0
1956	0
1957	0

Dysentery

26 cases of Sonnei Dysentery were notified representing a rate of 2·1 per thousand of the population. Eighteen were removed to Hospital.

Food Poisoning

5 cases reported, and two removed to Garngoch Hospital.

Whooping Cough

128 cases notified to the department, giving a rate of 10·7 of the population.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Wasserman Blood Tests are being done as a routine in the County Council Ante-Natal Clinics.

The nearest clinics for this area are held at Swansea and Port Talbot, and the sessions are as follows:—

Swansea Clinic (Situate at Swansea General and Eye Hospital):

Males —Monday, 2 p.m.
Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Friday, 6.30 p.m.

Females—Thursday, 1.30 p.m.

Port Talbot Clinic (Situate on the right hand side of the road immediately opposite the exit from G.W.R. Station) :

Males—Monday 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Thursday 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Females—Wednesday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1957

		Estimated Population 1957	Births			Deaths			Infant Mortality	
			Number of Births	Rate per 1000 population		Number of Deaths	Rate per 1000 population		Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1000 Live Births
				Crude	Adjusted		Crude	Adjusted		
England and Wales	.. .. ..		722,952	16·10	—	514,946	11·5	—	16,641	23·00
Administrative County	.. .. ..	740,600	12,081	16·31	16·15	9,085	12·27	13·99	380	31·45
Urban Districts	.. ..	535,500	8,826	16·48	16·32	6,582	12·29	14·13	290	32·86
Rural Districts	.. .. ..	205,100	3,255	15·87	16·35	2,503	12·20	13·18	90	27·65
Health Division.	*Constituent Districts.*									
Aberdare and	Aberdare Urban ..	40,100	611	15·24	15·70	581	14·49	14·92	23	37·64
Mountain Ash	Mountain Ash Urban ..	30,590	520	17·00	16·83	411	13·44	16·26	23	44·23
Caerphilly and	Caerphilly Urban ..	37,330	666	17·84	16·95	352	9·43	12·73	21	31·53
Gelligaer.	Gelligaer Urban ..	36,260	667	18·39	18·94	405	11·17	14·07	22	32·98
Mid Glamorgan	Bridgend Urban ..	14,810	278	18·77	17·83	173	11·68	12·61	13	46·76
	Maesteg Urban ..	22,640	365	16·12	16·12	271	11·97	15·20	11	30·14
	Ogmore & Garw Urban	22,180	339	15·28	15·28	256	11·54	13·96	10	29·50
	Porthcawl Urban ..	10,310	130	12·61	12·86	140	13·58	11·54	6	46·15
	Penybont Rural ..	35,660	596	16·71	17·38	524	14·69	13·22	19	31·88
Neath and	Neath M.B.	31,170	435	13·96	12·98	379	12·16	13·74	13	29·89
District	Neath Rural	41,370	607	14·67	14·38	426	10·30	13·08	15	24·71
Pontypridd and	Llantrisant Rural ..	25,780	467	18·11	17·39	262	10·16	13·00	14	29·98
Llantrisant	Pontypridd Urban ..	37,590	585	15·56	14·94	527	14·02	15·28	17	29·06
Port Talbot and	Glyncorrwg Urban ..	9,750	212	21·74	21·31	107	10·97	15·69	6	28·30
Glyncorrwg	Port Talbot M.B. ..	47,780	899	18·82	18·26	505	10·57	13·64	35	38·93
South East	Barry M.B.	42,020	765	18·21	17·48	464	11·04	12·14	28	36·60
Glamorgan	Cardiff Rural ..	39,180	593	15·14	16·20	561	14·32	11·74	14	23·61
	Cowbridge M.B. ..	1,010	11	10·89	11·33	11	10·89	11·33	—	—
	Cowbridge Rural ..	19,310	360	18·64	20·69	148	7·66	13·33	8	22·22
	Penarth Urban ..	19,200	321	16·72	16·55	232	12·08	11·11	11	34·27
West Glamorgan	**Gower Rural**	**11,920**	**197**	**16·53**	**17·36**	**159**	**13·34**	**12·14**	**8**	**40·61**
	Llwchwr Urban ..	25,860	348	13·46	13·73	289	11·18	13·08	6	17·24
	Pontardawe Rural ..	31,880	435	13·64	13·78	423	13·27	14·46	12	27·59
Rhondda	Rhondda Urban ..	106,900	1,674	15·66	15·35	1,479	13·84	16·05	45	26·88

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) for 1957

DISEASES	NUMBER OF CASES									Total number of cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
	Total at all Ages	AGE PERIODS									
		Under 1 Year	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over	Age un-known		
Dysentery	26	1	5	3	4	2	2	9	—	18	—
Scarlet Fever	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Measles	24	1	4	9	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	128	9	16	33	63	5	—	1	1	—	—
Food poisoning	5	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Eight cases of Pulmonary and one Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, as compared with 3 cases last year.

On receipt of a notification of surgical tuberculosis, the Sanitary Inspector automatically checks up on the milk supply from which district the notification is received.

It should be stressed that the cost of curative patching of a case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis may be £1,000. The prevention of Tuberculosis in comparison is almost negligible.

We are coming to a stage when we will have more cases of tuberculosis in our midst than previously, due to the fact that prior to this the bad cases died and the slight cases recovered. Due to modern treatment, the bad cases now survive very much longer. Whilst this is very desirable for the individuals concerned, from the point of view of the community it means that there will be more cases of tuberculosis at large.

There is great difficulty in deciding about the notifications of primary tuberculosis. Some authorities take the view that primary cases of tuberculosis are non-infectious at the time and should not be notified, and consequently they do not notify them. In my opinion, it is very desirable that all these cases should be notified, as, from a preventive point of view, we are very interested to know where they had their infection, and by this means to check up on all contacts and prevent further cases.

It can happen that a primary case would be notified two years later as a certified case of tuberculosis. It is rather late to do anything at this particular stage, it could be done very much easier two years previously.

Rubella and Haemolytic Streptococcal Infection.

There is a great danger in having a lackadaisical attitude towards infectious diseases. For instance, the general public look upon German Measles as being of relatively little consequence. It has been proved that there is great danger to the unborn child if a woman contracts this disease when she is about three months pregnant. As her child may be born with congenital defects such a defect is not due to heredity but due to foetus being affected by the mother's complaint. It is very desirable that a pregnant woman be prevented from coming into contact with such a disease as German measles.

The general attitude towards haemolytic streptococcal infection, such as scarlet fever, is that they are relatively benign. This, in my opinion, is a dangerous attitude. The haemolytic streptococcus is ultimately associated with rheumatic fever, and rheumatic fever is the great cause of heart disease (endocarditis). Haemolytic streptococcal infections are also associated with nephritis, it may be years afterwards when the original agent which caused the disease has been completely forgotten that the patient is diagnosed as suffering from incurable heart disease or nephritis.

In my opinion, it is very dangerous to nurse in open wards in a general hospital any infectious diseases, the proper place for these cases is in an infectious disease hospital.

THE CARE OF THE AGED

The percentage of elderly people in the population is increasing. It is becoming a major public health problem. It is desirable that elderly people should be kept among their own families as long as possible. I personally believe that the State should by means of subsidies in some form or another encourage this. It is also much cheaper to have a person stay at home than to be in an Institution.

A Chiropody Service for the aged is very desirable. By keeping these people ambulant, one adds to their enjoyment of life, and prevents them from becoming a burden. A congenial job provided the elderly person can do it, helps to keep his self respect and is good economics. Proper housing conditions should be provided for these people. It must also be remembered that elderly people find difficulty in climbing stairs, and it is better to have them living on ground level.

Influenza Epidemic. A salutary warning was given to us by the 'flu epidemic which occurred this year. The loss to the country must have been great. I need not go into details about this epidemic as most of us experienced this in our own person. The disease was sharp in its onset but was relatively benign. I dread to think what would happen if we had a really bad form of influenza.

Poliomyelitis. There was no case of poliomyelitis during the year. Mass immunisation against poliomyclitis is being done. The driving force behind this is the public health department of Glamorgan County Council. It is hoped eventually to combat this disease.

Diphtheria immunisation had a great effect in reducing diphtheria, and, as a matter of fact, no case of diphtheria has occurred in our area for years.

Poliomyelitis vaccination should eventually produce a similar effect. This is a good illustration of "Prevention is better than cure."

SMOKING. Cancer of the lung is increasing. There is a close co-relationship between cancer of the lung and smoking. It is very desirable, from a public health point of view, that children and young adults should be actively discouraged from taking up cigarette smoking. A person who introduces the young to the hazards of smoking is taking on himself a grave responsibility.

PROBLEMS OF RADIATION

We are all acquainted with the beneficial benefits of x-rays and the harmful one of the hydrogen and atomic bomb. It must also be remembered that x-rays can also have a harmful effect. This does not mean that people should not have an x-ray when it is clearly indicated that they should, but it does mean that one should not be needlessly x-rayed. This particularly applies to the pregnant woman, especially as there is the potential danger if too much x-rays were given that the child in the mother's womb can be so affected that later the child could develop leukaemia (a form of blood cancer). Needless x-ray of feet in shops for shoe fitting should be discouraged.

Radio active isotopes are becoming increasingly more important. They are very useful, they can also be very harmful. They should be used with wisdom. The public is aware of the effects of radio strontium, due to the fall out of hydrogen and atomic bombs. From a medical point of view, there should be no hysteria due to this, but a watching brief should be kept on the matter.

The disposal of atomic waste affects public health as products such as laverbread could be affected. I understand that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Medical Research Council keep a watchful eye on this.

We are moving very fast into the age of atomics—it can be an age of great progress, or it can be a frightening one. It is neccessary to have the Medical Officer of Health armed with the appropriate facts so that he can assess the advantages against the risks. The whole set-up should not be clouded in secrecy as far as the Medical Officer of Health is concerned.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925

No action was taken under this regulation during the year 1957, relating to Tubercular employees in the milk trade.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

No action was taken under this Section during the year 1957.

Tuberculosis Clinics.—The curative treatment of Tuberculosis is in the care of the Regional Hospital Board, and patients suffering from this disease attend the Dispensary at 9/10 Grove Place, Swansea.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1957

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	4	1	—	1	—	—	—

Hospitals.—The Gorseinon General and Maternity Hospital and Garngoch Isolation Hospital are under the control of the Glantawe Regional Hospital Board.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Ambulance Facilities:—

Infectious and Non-Infectious Cases—Since the 5th July, 1948, the Glamorgan County Council have taken over the control of the ambulance services in the administrative county.

As regards this area, an Ambulance Station has been established at Pontardawe, which controls the ambulances and cars stationed at Reynoldston, Gowerton, Gorseinon, Pontardulais, Gwauncaegurwen, Cwmllynfell, Ystalyfera, Pontardawe and Clydach.

Laboratory Facilities—Pathological and bacteriological specimens are submitted to the Cardiff and County Laboratory and the Public Health Laboratory, Swansea, for examination.

MILK.

Milk is a highly nutritious food. It can also be a most dangerous food, as it can act as an ideal culture medium for certain pathogens, except certain precautions are taken. It is my opinion that it is highly desirable that all milk should be pasteurised.

Milk should come from clean, healthy herds. The milking should be done under proper hygienic conditions, and should not be contaminated at any stage. Pasteurisation should not be used to cover up dirty milk.

42 samples of milk were sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Swansea, for Tubercle Bacilli examination, the results being as follows:—

Negative	40
Presence of Br. Abortus indicated	5
Premature death of guinea pigs	2

ICE CREAM.

Ice-cream is a nutritious food. It is essential that it should be manufactured, stored and sold under hygienic conditions.

Numerous outbreaks of intestinal infections have occurred throughout the country due to Ice-Cream, and consequently legislation was introduced requiring the registration of premises where Ice-Cream is sold, or manufactured for the purpose of sale, or stored for intended sale.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations, 1947, state that where in the manufacture of ice-cream, a "complete cold mix" is used, which is reconstituted with water, colouring or flavouring materials, etc., the product shall be converted to ice-cream within one hour of reconstitution. In any other case, after the ingrediants have been mixed, the mixture shall be not be kept for more than one hour above 45°F before being raised to and kept at a temperature of not less than 150°F for 30 minutes, or 160°F for 10 minutes. It shall then within 1½ hours be reduced to not more than 45°F, and there kept until freezing is begun. Ice-Cream may not be sold unless kept at a temperature not exceeding 28F. It must be protected from contamination at all times.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations, 1947, have been amended by the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Amendment Regulations, 1953, so as to include the High Temperature Short Time (H.T.S.T.) method of heat treatment. This H.T.S.T. method provides for the heat treatment of ice-cream mixes at a temperature of not less than 1750F for at least 15 seconds. The apparatus used is required to be thermostatically controlled and, as with the high temperature short time plants used for the pasteurisation of milk, fitted with a flow diversion valve. The installation of a positive displacement pump is also required, but this requirement would be met where the flow-rate through the plant is regulated by a piston homegeniser, The other relevant provisions of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations of 1947-1951, also apply to ice-cream manufactured by the new process.

There is a great danger if Ice-Cream is made from materials which contain pathogenic organisms. What is even more dangerous is the actual introduction or organisms by insanitary methods of handling.

The Minister of Food has now restored the standard for ice-cream which was in force before 7th July, 1952. The minimum fat content is increased from 4% to 5%, and the minimum content of non-fat milk solids from 5% to 7½%. The minimum sugar content remains at 10%. This has been rendered possible by the improvement in supplies of milk powder.

HOUSING

Up to the end of 1957 the Council erected 477 Houses.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Through the kindness of Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health, I am able to give the following particulars of samples taken and submitted to the Public Analyst.

Samples taken in the Gower Rural District by the County Sampling Officers during the year ended 31st December, 1957.

Aspirin tablets	3	Quinine tablets	1
Arrowroot	1	Rice	3
Almond paste	1	Salad cream	1
Bicarbonate of Soda	4	Sandwich Spread	1
Coffee & Chicory Essence	1	Sterilized Cream	5
Cake Mixture	2	Stuffing	1
Cornflour	1	Shredded beef Suet	2
Castor Oil	1	Soft Drink	8
Cod Liver Oil	2	Spices (mixed)	2
Dripping	1	Sultanas	1
Fullers earth	1	Semolina	3
Fish (canned)	2	Soft drink powder	1
Flavouring	3	Sauce	1
Ice Cream	7	Sago	1
Lard	1	Soup (canned)	1
Lemon Curd	1	Tea	3
Milk	69	Tapioca	2
Mint (concentrated)	1	Tomatoes (canned)	1
Macaroni	2	Vinegar	3
Meat Paste	2	Vitamin Capsules	5
Meat products (canned)	3	Vegetables (canned)	1
Pudding (canned)	1		
			157

CARAVANS

The following are the approved caravan sites within the area:—

Site	Planning Approval.	Vans Permitted.	Water Supply	San. F.	San. M.	Accomm. Ur.	Accomm. Disp.
J. N. Grove Port Eynon, Feild 234	5/3/53	43	Mains	3	2	3	Septic Tank
Do. Field 235	5/3/53	20	do.	3	2	1	do.
Mrs. W. J. Grove, Port Eynon Burrows.	30/7/53	64	do.	4	2	3	do.
D. J. Lewis, Croft Farm, Oxwich.	8/4/54	26	do.	2	1	2	do.
J. Morris, Broughton Bay, Langennith.	3/7/52	21	Spring water piped to site	2	2	2	do.
G. E. Rees, Hillend, Llangennith.	6/7/52	50	do.	2	2	4	do.
C. Price, Lagadranta, Llanmadoc.	8/11/52	50	do.	2	2	1	do.
W. H. Loosemgre, New Park, Port Eynon	—	25	Mains	2	1	4	do.

In addition to the above there are several caravan sites established for which planning approval has not been granted, whilst there are also a considerable number of individual caravans established indiscriminately within the area.

This is a matter that will require serious consideration at an early date as it is has now become a major problem.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

As required by Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, I give below, particulars with respect to matters under Part 1 and Part 8 of the Act as administered by the Council :

(1)	Factories in which Sections, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	
	number on Register	22
	Inspections—ditto	31
	Number of Notices served	—
	Prosecutions	—
(2)	Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the	
	Local Authority	6
	Inspections—ditto	3
	Number of Notices served	—
	Prosecutions	—
(3)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	1
	Inspections	1
	Number of Notices served	—

Cases in which defects were found :

Want of cleanliness	5
Sanitary conveniences :	
(a) insufficient	3
(b) unsuitable or defective	2
(c) not separate for sexes	—
Total	5
Outwork (Section 110 and 111)	—

Summary of Visits.

Caravan sites	62
House-letting	55
Food premises	79
Hotels and Licenced Premises	21
Institutions and Hospitals	1
Schools and School Kitchens	14
Slaughterhouses	485
Cockle and Laverbread Manufacturers	64
Dairy premises	42
Factories	8
Water supplies	48
Drainage and Sewage disposal	86
Refuse Disposal	39
Infectious Diseases	81
Rat Infestation	21
Other visits	151
Owners and Contractors interviewed	72

HOUSING.

Inspections—Houses.

Number of Houses inspected	93
Number of Houses re-inspected	72
Number of temporary dwellings inspected	216
Number of temporary dwellings re-inspected	62

Notices.

Number of Statutory Notices served	2
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	2
Number of Statutory Notices work in hand	—
Number of Informal Notices served	66
Number of Informal Notices complied with	66

Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses.

Action taken under the Housing Acts & Public Health Act for the period ending the 31st December, 1957.

Part A. Houses Demolished.	No. of houses	No. of persons displaced
Not in Clearance Area.		
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 11, Housing Act, 1936	10	15

Part B.—Unfit Houses Closed.		
Under Housing Act 1936. Section 11 & Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act 1953 Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2)	4	5

Part C. Unfit Houses made fit & houses in which defects were remedied.	By Owner.	By Local Authority
After informal action by Local Authority	24	—

House construction.

The following are the house construction figures during the year.

No. of Council Houses erected	24
No. of private houses erected	37
No. of private houses under construction	33

WATER SUPPLY

Samples of water were taken throughout the year for bacteriological examination, and chemical analysis, the number of samples and the results of the examinations were as follows:—

	Public Supplies, Service Pipes	Springs & Reservoirs	Private Supplies Springs & & Wells	Total
Bacteriological Examination.				
No. of Samples	33	17	1	51
No. Satisfactory	28	11	1	40
No. Unsatisfactory	4	6	—	10
No. Doubtful	1	—	—	1
Chemical Analysis.				
No. of Samples	12	—	—	12
No. Satisfactory	12	—	—	12
No. Unsatisfactory	—	—	—	—

Reservoirs.

Below is a list of reservoirs showing their capacity:—

Cefn Bryn (Ex Parkmill)	462,000 Galls.
Hotwell	30,000 do.
Holywell	37,500 do.
Pitton	60,000 do.

FLUORIDATION

Some natural waters contain fluoride and this is good. A person living in a primitive society has better teeth than we have. He is not confined to a particular source, but has an opportunity of getting water from various sources, and therefore is able to imbibe sufficient fluoride. Unfortunately, in one respect, in a civilised society, on an average, a person is confined to one source of water. The effect of this can be that the water contains a negligible quantity of fluoride. Fluoride to the extent of one part per million is a very great protection against dental caries. This can be added to the water supply, and has been done in many water undertakings in America, and experimentally in Britain. This means that a product which should naturally be there, but is missing, is being added. This is good preventive medicine. A

population drinking water fluoridated up to one part per million is 60% less prone to dental caries than one which consumes water deficient in fluoride. The effect of fluoride is mainly on the young.

It must also be remembered that the cost of the dental services to the N.H.S. (excluding the school dental services) is £50,000,000 per year.

Dental caries could be brought down to a very low level by discouraging children from eating sweets, lolly-pops and mushy carbo-hydrate food. The economic and health argument for fluoridation is overwhelming.

The fluoride content of the water supplies in this area is very low—0·035—0·040 parts per million.

The public also get a small supply of fluorides in tea and fish.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Milk & Dairies Reg. 1949.
Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised & Sterilised) Regs. 1949.
Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regs. 1949.

The following is the number of Registered Distributors, Dairies, & Licenced Dealers.

Registered Distributors :

Dairymen	5)	
Producer retailers	4)	11
Shopkeepers	2)	
Dairies		6

Dealers Designated Milk Licences.

T.T. Milk	12)	
Pasteurised Milk	18)	40
Sterilised Milk	10)	

MEAT INSPECTION

The following table gives the number of animals killed with details of the meat and offal condemned.

Description	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & lambs	Pigs
Number killed	407	100	119	5324	1589
Number inspected	407	100	119	5324	1589
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	—	1	1	1	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	196	66	2	811	84
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	48·1%	66·0%	1·68%	15·2%	5·2%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	·69%
Details of meat and offal condemned.					
Livers	154	51	—	811	73
Part Livers	42	15	—	—	—
Lungs	125	37	1	658	72
Heads	3	—	—	—	11
Carcases	—	1	1	1	2
Part Carcases	2	—	—	4	1

Total approximate weight—3 tons, 2 cwts, 3 qrs, 3 lbs.

RODENT CONTROL

The following is a summary of the inspections made, and the treatment carried out by the rodent operator for the 12 months ending 31st March, 1958.

	L. A. Premises	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises etc.	Agricultural
No. of inspections	16	961	55	310
Total inspections incl. re-inspections	—	—	—	893
No. of properties found infested :				
Rats	4	289	10	1
Mice	—	7	3	—
No. of infested premises treated	4	296	13	—